THE NEED IS GREAT. THE OPPORTUNITIES ARE ENDLESS. THE MINISTRY OPTIONS ARE WIDE OPEN.

WIDE OPEN MISSIONS GUIDE

EXPERIENCE THE CALL



so all can hear

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welcome

Thank you for considering Assemblies of God World Missions (AGWM) as the path to follow your passion for serving God! Our desire is to find a place for you to use the specific gifts God has given you.

This guide introduces you to a wide variety of missions opportunities around the world, whether you are considering short-term possibilities or a lifetime commitment. Here you will also find specifics on how to take your first steps in this journey.

AGWM has a team of over 150 personnel dedicated to serving our missionaries. We are ready to respond to your questions, guide you through the application process, and assist you in your journey to fulfill God's purpose for your life in missions.



the unfinished task

One of my predecessors, Loren Triplett, once said, "You don't measure yourself by your success. You measure yourself against the unfinished task."

The world's population is now over 7 billion—including 1.6 billion Muslims, 1 billion Hindus, 500 million Buddhists, and untold numbers of animists and secularists who need to hear the gospel. More than 7,000 people groups have no indigenous community of believing Christians to evangelize them. This means that billions have limited or no access to the gospel message.

How will we reach these people? How will we adequately fulfill our purpose, "so all can hear"?

In much of our history, many exemplary missionaries were individual pioneers. They didn't often work in teams, but the model in the Book of Acts tells us another story. From the first missionary journey of Barnabas, Saul, and John Mark to Paul's last missionary journey with Silas and Luke, we see teamwork. Paul was clearly the team leader, but the value of the entire team was clear from the beginning of Acts 13 through Acts 21—and even until Acts 28. I remember our general superintendent, Dr. George O. Wood, once saying he had counted 90 men and women in the New Testament who were Paul's coworkers in ministry.

We believe in a team approach to missions for the sake of (1) increased, broadened, and more effective ministry; (2) the health of individual missionaries and their families; (3) modeling Kingdom living through love and accountability; and (4) demonstrating New Testament missionary endeavors. Of course, if the Lord places you in an isolated ministry, you are still a highly valued part of the overall AGWM team.

The sacrifices and efforts of our missionary family around the world have impressed me tremendously. They are committed to preaching the gospel in every context, language, and culture, and they comprise a team with divine callings, motivated by a compelling passion to take the gospel to the ends of the earth.

> I believe the greatest days of evangelism, discipleship, church planting, and compassion ministries are ahead. God has positioned us—as a Movement, as a team of missionaries, and as leaders—to do more than we have ever done. After over a century as a mission, God has brought us to the crest of a wave, and the Holy Spirit is commissioning and empowering His church to complete the task of preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ to every person on earth.

Greg Mundis, Executive Director Assemblies of God World Missions

In the secular business world, matching job descriptions with qualified candidates requires a rigorous search. So, how does an effective blending of people and talents come about? We rely on the Holy Spirit's ability to speak to the hearts of qualified people and call them into His service in the place where they can best serve the kingdom of God.

When new AG missionaries are accepted, they become part of a relationship between the Lord of the harvest who calls people and the sending agency that provides the means. God has inspired our missionary mobilization process over the course of this Fellowship's history.

At our first AG General Council in 1914, a resolution was passed declaring that those who feel called to serve as missionaries must be properly tested in these areas: 1) Their personal experience of "full New Testament salvation"

- 2) Their divine call to missions
- 3) Their physical, mental, and spiritual qualifications

Many people have an idealized picture of missionary work. Certainly there is excitement in traveling to another country and learning another culture, but it is also hard work. Spiritual warfare inevitably occurs when followers of Christ commit themselves to take the gospel into the world. Candidates meet challenges they are not even aware of as they begin the application process.

As missionary candidates come to be interviewed, we seek confirmation that God has laid His hand upon them. What will enable them to remain in an environment if their plans do not come about? What will keep them committed to the task when they are tired, discouraged, low on funds, far from family, or possibly even opposed by local authorities?

Both singles and married couples serve with AGWM as missionaries. When we commission married couples, we recognize God's calling on both husband and wife. God doesn't place a ministry burden on only one marriage partner. Particularly in world missions, the responsibilities of family, ministry, and cultural adjustments are too great for a couple that is not united in purpose.

As a Spirit-led missions sending agency, AGWM strongly emphasizes and constantly expresses reliance upon the work of God's grace and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The baptism in the Holy Spirit is as essential to fulfilling the Great Commission today as it was in the first century. God desires that missionary candidates be fully empowered for service by the Holy Spirit.

As Jesus instructed, we ask the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers. We continue to partner with the Holy Spirit as He sovereignly brings men and women to a realization of their purpose in life. It never fails—when God speaks to a missionary candidate's heart, He confirms His leading by granting divine guidance within our committee, divine provision within the churches of our Fellowship, and a divine harvest around the world.

> Rick Johnson, Director **AGWM Personnel and Member Care**



called & qualified





what is wide open missions?

Wide Open Missions, operated by the Personnel and Member Care (PMC) Department, is the official placement service of Assemblies of God World Missions.

PMC facilitates missionary training events, processes career missionaries, missionary associates, short-term ministers abroad, short-term teams, and MAPS volunteers; and handles responsibilities of member care, the missionary kids program (ISMK), the missionary-in-residence program at colleges and universities, and Pipeline.

why choose agwm?

By serving with us, you will:

- Become part of a growing worldwide fellowship of believers in more than 250 nations, territories, and provinces.
- Be able to draw on 100-plus years of established missionary experience, including the security of proven missions priorities and methods.
- · Receive mentoring from veteran missionaries.
- Build on relationships developed with national churches.
- Have the prayer, care, communication, and financial support of believers who are passionate about proclaiming Jesus and making disciples.
- Be assisted by knowledgeable staff on your journey to the field.

how can you get involved?

Getting Started

Discover and participate in what God is doing around the world by getting involved in missions. Thousands of people serve with AGWM each year, whether assisting missionaries for one month to two years or by dedicating their lives to fulfilling the Great Commission as career missionaries. You can read more about these categories of ministry starting on page 8 of this missions guide.

Training

Short-Term & 1-2 Years

Pre-Field Orientation (PFO) is a 1–2 week training conference in Springfield, Missouri, that provides the necessary tools and encouragement for successful ministry abroad. This is a rich opportunity to interact with experienced missionaries, as well as to gain insight from missions leadership.

PFO is a requirement for all missionary associates. PFO is not available for volunteers serving less than four months or for team members.

This training is offered three times each year in March, June, and October. Once approved, missionary associates (or MAPS volunteers if they are invited to attend) are added to the next available PFO according to their availability. Families with children accompanying them to the field must attend in June in order to participate in the missionary kids program.

Career

Our Missionary Training program is essential to help new missionaries prepare for the complexities of living overseas. Each session is designed to strengthen, inform, and encourage them to be prepared to handle situations they may encounter on and off the field. In addition, this is an opportunity to network with veteran missionaries, as well as receive encouragement from missions leadership. This training is mandatory for all career missionaries and is offered each June in Springfield, Missouri.





what is pipeline?

Choosing to take Jesus' name to unreached peoples around the world is a significant step that will change the course of your life. There are countless places to plug into what God is doing throughout the nations, and it can be daunting to know where you fit; however, your journey does not have to be filled with confusion or frustration. AGWM's Pipeline is a team dedicated to seeing you through from start to finish of the missions placement process.

Our team is prepared to walk alongside you as you take your first steps into missions. We take your gifts and skills into consideration as we explore the options available to you. After you have discovered opportunities that fit your talents and background, we connect you with a missionary to begin the conversation about how, what, and when. Whether you are interested in short-term missions or have a lifetime calling, there is a place for you to serve.

Our desire in Pipeline is to support people as they begin navigating the ways God can use them in opportunities worldwide.





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Connect with a Pipeline team leader, and share about your interest and heart to serve through missions.



CONTRACT CONTRACTORS CONTRACTORS

Our purpose is to communicate strategically with the next generation. We will steward missiologically-sound conversations with youth under the age of 18 to introduce missions opportunities and encourage them to discover their role in the Great Commission.

Students are able to connect with the Youth Advocacy Team and discover opportunities to find their fit in missions. Through connecting with the Youth Pipeline, youth will actively become a part of a community of other young adults passionate about missions. By connecting personally with Assemblies of God World Missions and the Youth Advocacy Team, students will have exposure to where they can find their fit in missions, both now and in the future.





Complete an application through the Wide Open Missions website to join Assemblies of God World Missions and begin the process.

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Contact

pipeline@ag.org youthpipeline@ag.org





The Pipeline team leader contacts a missionary about your interest to serve in his or her area of the world.









CATEGORIES OF MINISTRY	Teams & Volunteers	Short-Term Minister Abroad	MAPS Volunteer	Missionary Associate
Length of Service	less than 1 month	1 to 6 months	1 to 11 months	1 to 2 years
AG Ministerial Credentials		✓		
Support-Raising Per District Policy	✓		~	✓
Training			*	✓

* See page 10



Teams

MAPS teams are a significant part of AGWM, with approximately 15,000 people serving on short-term trips each year. All teams working with an AGWM missionary are required to process through PMC for approval. Upon receiving an official invitation from a missionary, it is important for teams to register right away. This will allow adequate time to finish processing before the official deadline, which is one month prior to departure date. Fill out and submit an application at WideOpenMissions.org.

Volunteers

Individuals and couples often take vacation time to serve on short-term assignments. Missionaries need people who can serve in many different areas, including construction, evangelism, health care, and compassion outreaches. To apply, contact mapsteams@ag.org.

Oualifications

short-term minister abroad

A Short-Term Minister Abroad (STMA) assignment is for a term of up to 6 months on the field and is designed to complement the work of career missionaries. An individual with Assemblies of God ministerial credentials may be led to share expertise from years of ministry experience. Ministry abroad must be properly planned with an invitation from a missionary or field

fellowship and approval from the area and regional directors. Each ministry trip is arranged through AGWM. To apply, contact stma@ag.org.

Oualifications

David & Jerri Satterfield

"It is a privilege of ours to serve as short-term missionaries with AGWM. Teaching and equipping future pastors and church leaders in Bible schools overseas is a life-changing experience for us. Students are inspiring and eager to learn more about Jesus and His Word and work."



less than 1 month

• Be a believer in good standing with a local church • Be in agreement with AGWM policies regarding overseas trips

• Hold ministerial credentials with the AG • Be invited by a missionary or field fellowship





maps volunteer

Discover and participate in what God is doing around the world as a MAPS volunteer for 1 to 11 months. MAPS volunteers connect their areas of ministry interest with needs on the field.

University students can fulfill practicum and internship requirements for cross-cultural courses with an overseas assignment—generally 1 to 3 months in length.

Step 1: Application

Fill out and submit an application at WideOpenMissions.org.

Step 2: Initial Process

(2 to 4 weeks)

After initial review, your application specialist will contact you with updates and be available to answer questions. References will be compiled and a background check completed.

Step 3: Screening Process

(2 to 4 weeks)When references and information have been received, your file will be reviewed.

Step 4: Placement Process

(3 to 6 weeks)Assignment details are discussed and finalized with the mentor missionary and area director.

Step 5: Approval Process

(1 to 2 weeks)

When your assignment details have been received, final approval is secured. You will be notified of your

Qualifications

- At least 18 years old
- U.S. citizen or able to work in the U.S.
- Born-again Christian and growing believer
- Consistent in your personal devotional life
- Faithful to your local church



Sarah Careins

"The greatest excitement is sharing the Bible with someone who has never heard before!"

approval and an email will be sent to you

Step 6: Pre-Field Orientation

Four- to 11-month MAPS volunteers are

at the request of the area director or

year in March, June, and October.

not required to attend, but it is available

regional director. PFO is held three times a

(**PFO**) (optional)

with steps to follow before your departure.

Sarah served as a MAPS volunteer in South Africa for six months in 2007 before becoming a career missionary in 2008.

missionary associate

Embark on an adventure-filled journey as a missionary associate (MA). MAs assist a career missionary in areas of their skills and interests for 1 to 2 years. They serve in a variety of ministry capacities and have the opportunity to receive coaching from experienced leaders.

Fulfilling an MA term can be a foundational experience for those considering the possibility of a career in missions. By spending a year or more thoroughly engaged in missions, MAs have time to build stronger relationships with local friends, learn the language, and assimilate into the culture.

Step 1: Application

Fill out and submit an application at WideOpenMissions.org.

Step 2: Initial Process

(2 to 4 weeks)

After initial review, your application specialist will contact you with updates and be available to answer questions. Your district will be contacted, references compiled, and credit and background checks completed.

Step 3: Screening Process

(2 to 4 weeks) When references and information have been received, your file will be reviewed.

Step 4: Placement Process

(3 to 6 weeks) Assignment details are discussed and finalized with the mentor missionary and area director.

Step 5: Approval Process

(1 to 2 weeks)

When your assignment details have been received, your file will be prepared for presentation to your regional director. Once final approval is given, you will be notified and an email sent to you with your assignment details.

Step 6: Pre-Field Orientation (PFO)

MAs are required to attend PFO. PFO is held three times a year in March, June, and October. Families must attend in June to participate in the missionary kids program.

Qualifications

• 18 years or older

• U.S. citizens or valid resident alien permit that allows travel to and from the U.S. with a valid U.S. work permit that allows return to the U.S. after living in another country for a year or more. • Born again Christian and growing believer Consistent in your personal devotional life • Faithful to your local church • Limited personal debt





career missionary

Dedicate your life to fulfilling the Great Commission overseas as a career missionary. Career missionaries have diverse ministries and represent a wide range of educational and ministry backgrounds, but they all express a clear lifetime call to missions.

	CAREER			
PERSONNEL STATUS CATEGORIES	Special Assignment Specialized Service Career Missionary Associate	Appointed General Appointed Special		
FUND-RAISING ITINERATION	ltineration	Itineration		
REQUIREMENTS	All first-term missionaries begin as Special Assignment Ministerial credentials required Career MA and Specialized Service must be eligible for credentials, but they are not required at the time of application 3-year assignment with end-of-term evaluation Ministry agreements Validation of call Renewable	Ministerial credentials required Appointment after initial 3-year term successfully completed Validation of call Ministry evaluation at end of each term		
BUDGET	All levels: Minimal = Average monthly is \$2,900 Low = Average monthly is \$4,500 Standard = Average monthly is \$6,875	Standard = Average monthly is \$6,875		



Gil Rodriguez

"[In Southern Europe] most people are religious but do not know the Bible. Some consider themselves to be 'saved' but have no idea of what salvation really is. On the other hand, there is also an anti-biblical approach to life in general.... God is helping our missionaries move forward with some great ministry, seeing more churches planted and growing."

Career Missionary Associate

This is a missionary associate who has served three consecutive years of MA service and desires to live out his or her lifetime call to missions. Additional gualifications:

- Recommendation from a regional director
- Submission of a career MA application

Special Assignment

All first-term career missionaries begin at this level. The Special Assignment status allows credentialed ministers to fulfill needed positions overseas. Newly-appointed missionaries engage in ministry while receiving mentoring during their first term on the field.

After successful completion of their first term, missionaries are eligible for the following statuses:

Appointed General

An appointed general missionary has a lifetime call to missions and uses ministry skills to engage in missionary work, such as evangelism, church planting, construction, Bible school ministry, and assisting the national church in developing pastors and leaders. Additional qualifications:

- Ordained Assemblies of God minister
- Two or more years of ministry in a pastoral position
- Successful completion of a three-year term as a special assignment missionary

Appointed Special

An appointed special missionary has a lifetime call to missions and uses specialized skills to fill a vocational role on the mission field, such as teachers for Bible schools, elementary schools, and high schools; computer specialists; media technicians; medical personnel; builders; accountants; and administrative assistants. Additional qualifications:

- Ordained or licensed Assemblies of God minister
- Two years of experience in area of specialization
- Successful completion of a three-year term as special assignment missionary

• A lifetime call to missions • Baptism in the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:4 • Licensed, ordained, or eligible for AG ministerial credentials • Limited personal debt • Endorsement from candidate's AG district missions department • U.S. citizens or valid resident alien permit that allows travel to and from the U.S. with a valid U.S. work permit that allows return to the U.S. after living in another country for a year or more

Qualifications



international society of missionary kids

Missionary kids (MKs) are an important part of Assemblies of God World Missions. Our MK program, called ISMK (International Society of Missionary Kids), includes approximately 1500 missionary kids from birth through the age of 22. To help MKs thrive, ISMK strives to equip, engage, and enable them.

Equip

First, ISMK equips MKs as missionaries called to reach their own generation. ISMK assists with cultural training, education, retreats, discipleship, and life transitions. Missionary families are more effective if the children are equipped educationally, emotionally, and spiritually to handle the challenges they will face.

Engage

Second, ISMK engages MKs completely in missions. MKs handle adjustments better if they are offered a sense of meaning and purpose regarding their role in the missionary family, understanding that God calls the entire family, not just parents.

Enable

Third, ISMK enables parents to fulfill their missions calling by providing support in an area where a missionary family is often vulnerable. When an MK struggles with educational, cultural, and spiritual adjustments, the parents' energies are divided between ministry and the wellbeing of their family. We provide discipleship and resources specifically designed for MKs to help them through transitions. By helping MKs establish an identity rooted in Christ, we not only free parents to do their ministry effectively but also multiply their efforts by encouraging MKs to share in their family's vision for missions.





ISMK Flag

The blue section of the flag represents the MK's passport culture. The yellow section represents the MK's new culture. MKs often feel like they don't belong to one single culture, but rather take pieces of both cultures and blend them in their lives. That is why MKs are represented by the green chameleon in the middle named MiKo. They are green because they are a blending together of two cultures, the blue and the yellow. The chameleon signifies the ability to adapt to their surroundings and blend into the culture they are living in at the time.

MISSIONARY KIDS BY REGION

Africa

Asia Pacific

Eurasia

Europe





GION 201

194













Before going to the Horn of Africa, the idea of working with nationals terrified me. The way the women

covered themselves head to toe; the idea that female circumcision is still practiced; the news reports portraying them as pirates, terrorists, and murderers all had me begging God to send me somewhere else. However, after meeting the first person, all of that fear was stripped away. These are people just like you and me—lost and in need of a Savior, hopeless but needing peace, in darkness but desperate for the Light.

AFRICA

It's no mystery that God brought me here to these beautiful people and to my dear friend Wilma.* Her name's literal translation is "good news," so imagine the plans God has for her! At the start of the school term, our friendship and



discussions about God grew guickly. Sadly, her brother was killed by a car bomb, leaving Wilma grieving but incredibly open to faith. This led to conversations about what her people believe happens after death. They believe if you try to do enough good and obey the rules, hopefully, Allah will be merciful to you. This uncertainty leaves them with a complete lack of peace for themselves and their loved ones. We talked about the thief on the cross, who, without the opportunity to do any more good deeds, he was still promised eternal life in paradise-now that is a merciful God!

We have both a great privilege and a great responsibility to reach the lost. Somehow, God has designed a plan where all who take part gain something. While serving here, I've gained a greater trust in Christ and a deep reliance on Him. I've learned to be still and watch Him work, yet rejoice that He has chosen us to be a small part of His big plan.

This isn't a glamorous life. You won't be recognized for your achievements or praised for your work. It's a life of anonymity, fierce intention, and small gains. But through it all, it is a life fulfilled. The times I met with Wilma, opened the Bible, and read about Jesus have been some of the most satisfying and memorable. The moment I watched her weep over God's love for her, I realized I wouldn't want to be anywhere other than this front-row seat to the awesome and overwhelming power of God's presence.

"And he said to them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest' " (Luke 10:2, ESV).

*Name has been changed due to sensitivity.



Pipeline

If you're interested in serving in Africa, contact africapipeline@ag.org.

Regional Statistics Countries Served: 52 **Unreached People Groups Engaged: 34** Adherents: 17,965,823





I entered the church a little late, not wanting any interruptions, since the men would be there in just a few

minutes. In the stairwell a hungry little girl asked me for a peso. Looking past her, I actually stepped over her and opened the room for our prayer meeting.

The men arrived, and we began a serious prayer time together. As I was deeply seeking the Lord, it was as if a video began to play in my mind, and there she was: the little girl from the stairwell. I heard the Lord say to get up and get her something to eat-she is hungry. I argued with Him, concerned that others would think I was an abuser, perhaps just another foreigner offering a little girl a treat for a sexual favor. But I couldn't shake the feeling, and finally I gave in, excused myself, and took the little girl to a nearby eatery. I was right; people stared at me and the little girl. However, this event changed the direction of my life, and my wife Nancy and I began a home for children.

Happy Horizons Children's Ranch (HHCR) celebrated its twentieth anniversary in October 2014. HHCR is a leading aftercare facility for children rescued from sexual slavery. With hundreds of girls and boys having been rescued from the garbage heaps of Cebu, we are making a difference one child at a time. HHCR offers long-term care for children whose lives have been traumatized by a life of abuse. Happy Horizons Academy offers our children a full Christian education. BGMC has been a major contributor to the school. We also have a vocational training school, and many students go on to college as well. Currently many of our teachers, nurses, and social workers are former residents. The pastor of the ranch's church was himself rescued as a child through the program.

Over the years HHCR has expanded its work among children through partnership with One Child Matters and Convoy of Hope. Now over 5000 elementary

school children receive a hot meal each school day. Over 1300 little ones receive sponsored educational assistance, medical attention, and much more. Asia's Little Ones has been another important partner helping us provide college scholarships for many of our students.

The future is bright as HHCR continues to spread the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Dhan is a 26-year-old operating room nurse at Genesis Hospital in Nett, Pohnpei, Micronesia. He found Christ as a Filipino expatriate worker when he became friends with members of International Christian Fellowship (ICF) in Kolonia, Pohnpei. One of his first statements to the pastor was, "Father, every time I come to mass, I feel the Holy Spirit." He had never experienced prayer through the laying on of hands before. This young man's life was turned rightside-up by Jesus Christ, and he now serves on the ICF worship team and continues to follow Jesus.

Dhan used to wonder, of all the places in this world, why did he live in Pohnpei? In March 2014 he began attending services at ICF with a friend and explained, "My meaningless life here on the island turned to something deeper. I was craving for God. His words, His power, and divine providence. I realized that the solution to my searching is Jesus Christ. For the very first time in my 26 years of existence, I have finally opened the Bible and found it is the world's most hidden treasure. I haven't been drinking for three months now, and today I am one month free from the bondage of cigarette addiction after ten long, horrible years." When asked why God brought him here, he answered, "To know Him! This is Dhan dela Cruz, an alcoholic, a drunkard, a chain smoker, a pervert, a party animal. I was heading in the wrong direction. I once felt there was no hope. I was separated from God, but now I have been delivered from despair, given hope for life, and rescued by the Father Almighty!"



Pipeline If you're interested in serving in Asia

Pacific, contact appipeline@ag.org.

Regional Stories

Regional Statistics Countries Served: 37 Unreached People Groups Engaged: 50 Adherents: 6,020,318





Luke and Tanya McKinley know all about miracles. Their move to Estonia to join a church-planting team, Focus

Church, launched a series of miraculous events only explainable through God's perfect timing.

The Baltic country of Estonia is one of the leastreligious countries in the world. As a people, Estonians are reserved and cautious, making new friends and decisions slowly.

Focus Church stresses the importance of building relationships, so the McKinleys began inviting Estonians over, accepting people where they are, and showing them they matter. "As church planters we're constantly thinking of how to bless other people and let the Holy Spirit guide our conversations," Tanya explains.

That's when they met Kristin. An Estonian herself, Kristin had lived abroad for years, searching for experiences that would bring her closer to her true purpose. Finding unsatisfactory answers about the meaning of her life, she returned to her homeland, disillusioned.

"When we first met Kristin, she was very friendly and polite, but when she found out we moved here to plant a church, she made it very clear to us that she didn't believe in one religion and didn't want to be a part of what we were doing," Tanya recalls.

Kristin remained adamant in her stance against Christianity, but her friendship with Tanya grew. Over coffee, choir, and board-game nights, Kristin saw that Tanya didn't view her as a "project" but instead as a person whose questions mattered. Kristin opened up, surprised that her comments met with acceptance instead of the usual stares of disapproval from others.

Tanya decided to take a risk and invite Kristin to Focus Church's Alpha course. Kristin texted

back right away: "Yes!" At Alpha, Kristin sat with her arms crossed. During discussion times she brought up questions that led to arguments. This went on for weeks, until one day, her questions took a different turn.

"It was like a light bulb went on," Tanya remembers. "Something changed in her heart. It was like she finally saw God was real and that He was the one she had been looking for all this time."

Kristin began asking what the Bible meant for people today. She decided to read it for herself and started asking Tanya to explain passages to her.

Soon after, Kristin decided to be baptized in water but was hesitant to invite her family, not knowing if they would accept her if she made such a public demonstration of her Christianity. Surprises came on the day she was baptized when her entire family showed up.

"It really started with prayer," explains Tanya. "Prayer and really being in each other's lives, taking people one step closer to Jesus. Kristin saw that with her own family too."

Kristin is now on the tech team at Focus Church, regularly running the sound board and welcoming all who come through the doors with her outgoing personality and disarming smile. She has found the purpose she sought the world over for.

"I was going through one of the toughest times in my life during the Alpha course," Kristin tells us, "and I'm not sure how I would have gone on if I wouldn't have found Jesus. He showed up with perfect timing. And that, for me, is the perfect miracle."

"I'm completely amazed at what God has done," Tanya recalls with glad tears. "We wanted to go into missions ten years ago, but plans never worked out. Looking back, we can see how perfect God's timing was in bringing us to Estonia at this time. If we had come earlier, we never would have met Kristin."



Pipeline If you're interested in serving in Eurasia, contact eurasiapipeline@ag.org.



Regional Statistics Countries Served: 44 **Unreached People Groups Engaged: 57** Adherents: 2,536,663





Anna* is a europe Anna* is a young Eastern European woman

who answered an ad in her village paper for a job with a travel agency. Instead of getting the good job the recruiter promised, she was trafficked to Germany where she was beaten, raped, and put in a brothel to work off the debt her trafficker had paid to the recruiter. Her pimp told her he owned her body, and 10 to 20 men were brought to her room each day. If she refused, she was beaten and threatened that family members in her home country would be killed.

Anna survived for a year under these conditions, until one day she was stopped



by the police for a random paper check. She decided she had nothing to lose and told them her story. Her trafficker was arrested, and Anna was sent to a government shelter for protection. Her trafficker, swearing revenge, sent someone who found Anna, physically assaulted her, and threatened the lives of her sister and niece if she testified. Anna desperately reached out to a local ministry that, in turn, contacted our ministry team. We immediately bought her a plane ticket to Belgium and helped her obtain shelter, professional counseling, and a lawyer to help her gain legal status to stay long-term.

Anna began coming to church and gave her heart to the Lord. Her first few months in Belgium brought healing, growth, and new life, but also the challenge of twice being refused legal status. A government agent told us she had less than a 2 percent chance given her specific circumstances. We kept speaking life and hope into her and encouraging her with prayer and Scripture, telling her what was impossible with man was possible with God.

While waiting for the verdict on her third and final appeal, she said one day after Bible study, "I know I will be okay even if my final appeal is rejected. I have peace that God will take care of me." This was a miracle in itself, because the first two rejections had brought such despair. Less than a week later her legal status was approved! She called to tell me, excited, crying, and rejoicing, "It is a miracle; it is a miracle." Anna is still receiving counseling for the abuse and trauma she suffered, but she is moving forward in her healing journey and growing in faith each step of the way.

*Names and countries have been changed due to sensitivity.



Pipeline If you're interested in serving in Europe, contact europepipeline@ag.org.

Regional Stories

Regional Statistics Countries Served: 39 Unreached People Groups Engaged: 64 Adherents: 1,830,167

Photos by H.L. Hussmann III, Dusan Cupal, & Steven Kenr





In 2006 upon returning to Sucúa, Ecuador, from itineration in the States, we were faced with a very serious need. A nine-

year-old girl was dropped on our doorstep; she was the youngest of 16 children, and her family decided they could not "afford" her. Her options were few—be sent to the city to "work" (which usually ends in a brothel), be passed around to older siblings (85% of the girls in indigenous communities are sexually abused by the age of 12, usually by a family member), or we choose to respond. We had no funding, no staff, and no clue what we were jumping into, but we knew helping her was the only acceptable option. That day in August, Ecuador Hope House was born.

Since then, Ecuador Hope House has been a home for more than 60 girls, some for a few months, others for years. Currently, 30 at-risk girls who are 10–20 years of age call Hope House their home. They receive a scholarship that covers their food, housing, clothing, studies, tutoring, special events, and more all for less than \$7 per day.

Our dream to make a difference for the ones society rejects is a reality. Now we have a plan, a loving staff, and wonderful facilities that are constantly expanding to meet the growing need. By the grace of God our girls now have the option to dream, receive God's love, hear His plan for their lives, study in a safe environment, and ultimately succeed in life.

In our first years of pioneering campus ministry in Chile, we reached a medical student named Daniela. She started a small group with a handful of her closest classmates. They attended faithfully, but not one gave their life to the Lord. Seven years later, Daniela is now a doctor and an active member of a church. She remains close friends with the girls who were once in her small group.

Recently, one of them, Valeria, got a job as a doctor in a remote part of the country. She met a Christian who started talking to her about God, and everything Daniela had taught came back to her mind and heart. Because Daniela remained close, she was able to connect her to a church and has been fundamental in her new walk with God. Seven years later, the time Daniela had invested in Valeria began to bear fruit.





Pipeline If you're interested in serving in LAC, contact lacpipeline@ag.org. Regional Statistics Countries Served: 39 Unreached People Groups Engaged: 74 Adherents: 30,658,033

Regional Stories





Mei An* entered college just like any one of the other 30 million-plus university students in her country. It's not easy to get into a university in the nation where Mei An lives. She had to succeed in a series

of tests, competing with other prospective students, and the intense pressure that her parents put on her only complicated this. Her success or failure would determine whether her parents felt pride or shame. She knew that many university students could not bear the pressure and had committed suicide.

Monday morning she attended the first day of classes. She was eager to go to her English class. Mei An studied diligently, and when the course became difficult, she took advantage of the opendoor policy of her foreign English teacher. Karen* Lao Shi ("teacher Karen") was unlike any teacher Mei An ever had before. Her kindness and patience impressed Mei An, and she taught in ways Mei An had never experienced. Karen Lao Shi used games, movies, and questions about life and culture to teach her students how to speak English.

Mei An's name means "beautiful peace"; however, Mei An did not feel peace. The more she studied, the more she realized that all her hopes of a successful life and prosperity would not fulfill the greatest need of her life—deep inner peace in her heart.

Mei An did see an example of such peace and happiness demonstrated in the life of Karen Lao Shi. Mei An knew Karen Lao Shi must miss her parents, siblings, friends, and homeland. She knew that her teacher must face frustrations with the culture of her host country. But if Karen Lao Shi felt those things, she did not show them. She radiated peace, joy, and happiness.

One day Mei An was working on an essay in Karen Lao Shi's office. She overheard her teacher receive a phone call that let her know that her teacher's grandfather had died. Even in her sorrow, Karen Lao Shi exhibited an unexplainable peace. Mei An couldn't understand how that was possible! When Mei An asked her teacher how she could remain so peaceful even at the news of her grandfather's death, Karen Lao Shi explained that her grandfather was a Christ follower, so he was in heaven with Christ now.

As the school year continued, Mei An compared the lives of her English teacher and her other acquaintances. Their lives were so different. A hunger grew in Mei An's heart to have the same peace, happiness, and contentment her teacher had. She longed for the assurance that she could have eternal life after she died, because of all things, she feared death most.

Over the next two years, Mei An spent a lot of time with Karen Lao Shi. She learned that to be a Christ follower meant to be a believer in Jesus Christ and to commit one's life to Him. She met many short-term team members from American universities who told her more about Jesus. One night as she sat in her dormitory room thinking about all she had heard about Jesus, everything came together for her, and Mei An believed. For the first time in her life, she quietly prayed to Jesus and invited Him into her heart as her Savior.

The next day when Mei An told her teacher she had prayed to accept Jesus, Karen Lao Shi was overjoyed. She introduced Mei An to online courses through a Bible college (produced by Global University), and Mei An was delighted to be able to study the Word of God in her own language!

As Mei An matured in faith, she began to share her faith with other students. Soon many others accepted Christ as well. She began a small Bible study that grew into a community of faith (a house church), where she discipled converts and trained them to win others as well. When Mei An and those she had won to Jesus graduated from the university, they took their faith with them to share with others in the great cities of her country.

*Names have been changed due to sensitivity.



Pipeline

Regional Statistics Provinces Served: 34 Unreached People Groups Engaged: 31 Adherents: Unavailable

If you're interested in serving in Northern Asia, contact **napipeline@ag.org**.

Regional Stories

Regional Stories





INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES

International Ministries is a network of strategic ministries that focuses on meeting specific needs for missionaries and national fellowships worldwide.

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If you're interested in serving with International Ministries, contact impipeline@ag.org.



frequently asked questions

What are the age requirements? Missions applicants must be at least 18 years old.

What if I'm younger than 18?

You can contact our Pipeline youth advocate representative at youthpipeline@ag.org to find out how you can get involved in missions prior to turning 18. See page 6 for more information.

How do I get started?

Contact Pipeline to find your place in missions at pipeline@ag.org.

Where can I get an application?

Visit WideOpenMissions.org to start the application process.

When will I receive approval?

The length of the application process varies by category. Team registration must be completed at least one month prior to departure. Short-term volunteers typically take two to four months to process, and missionary associates can take up to six months. The application process for career missionaries takes six to nine months.

How will my overseas ministry be financed?

All missions personnel are responsible for raising their funds. A budget will be established based on field of ministry and length of assignment. Career missionaries raise their budget by ministering in churches, where they seek prayer and financial support, as well as from friends and family. Missionary associates and short-term volunteers may raise funds through their home church, family, and friends, or use personal accounts.

How much personal debt is allowed?

The monthly maximum debt allowance varies for each missions category. There is no debt limit for short-term volunteers. Both career missionaries and missionary associates have a designated debt maximum that takes into account personal as well as educational debt.

What qualifications are there?

Specific qualifications vary according to category (see pages 8 and 12), field assignment, and length of service.

Do I have to learn a language?

This is dependent upon the length of assignment and the field of ministry. If language learning is required, arrangements will be made for you to attend a language school. In some cases, a concentrated year of study is expected.

I'm not from an AG background, and/or I do not currently attend an AG church. Can I apply through your sending agency?

Many short-term volunteers come from various church backgrounds; we simply ask that you be in good standing with your local church. For missionary associates, approval is dependent upon each AG district and the length of service requested. However, career missionary applicants must have an endorsement from their AG district missions director.

What kind of ministry will I be doing?

There are countless opportunities for ministry, such as evangelism; children's, youth, or adult ministries; outreaches; camps; student ministry; compassion ministry; relief work; construction; literature distribution; and door-to-door visitation. There are also opportunities to use specialized skills in vocational roles such as teachers, administrators, computer specialists, Web designers, and medical professionals.

With whom will I be serving?

Team members, short-term volunteers, and missionary associates serve alongside a career missionary to assist the needs of the ministry. The career missionary will provide guidance and help facilitate ministry opportunities.

Is AGWM insurance mandatory?

Yes. All teams and individuals working with an AGWM missionary are required to purchase AGWM-provided insurance for the entirety of their approved trips, without exception. This ensures that the host missionary is prepared to handle any medical or evacuation needs while volunteers travel abroad. Insurance coverage is in addition to (not a replacement for) any personal policy an individual or team member may already have.

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a place for YOU

be a part of a growing worldwide fellowship of believers in more than 250 nations, territories, and provinces draw upon over 100 years of missionary experience receive mentorship from veteran missionaries build on strategic relationships developed with national churches have assurance in established, proven missions priorities and methods be sustained by prayer, care, communication and financial support of believers

walk alongside highly trained personnel in **YOUR** journey to the field

the need is great the **OPPORTUNITIES** are endless

the ministry options are... wideopen





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